DOING YOUR FAMILY GENEALOGY

Doing your family genealogy is somewhat like putting together the pieces of a large puzzle. It can be a very rewarding and challenging task. Unlike definite size of a puzzle, a family tree is always growing and changing. Many people work on their family history for a lifetime. Others tackle only a certain portion or a specific period of time. No matter which path you choose to pursue, a special experience awaits you. To help you begin your journey, the Jewish Historical Society has prepared helpful and basic guide.

Some basic rules to remember when beginning your family research:

- Talk to as many living relatives as you can - they are an important source of information.
- Be sure to verify important information with documentation.
- Purchase a few good Jewish genealogical books.

Two recommended books are:

From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Family History by Arthur Kurzweil, Elie Wiesel. (Jason Aronson, revised edition, 1994).

The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy: Sources in the United States and Canada (The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy , Vol. 1) by Miriam Weiner. (Jason Aronson, 1997).

EXPANDING YOUR RESEARCH

Delaware, being midway between New York City and Washington, D.C., provides access easy to world-class Jewish research institutions. Institutions in Philadelphia and Baltimore are easy commutes.

DELAWARE SYNAGOGUES

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation
Washington Boulevard and Torah Way
Wilmington, Delaware 19802
(302) 762-2705
http://www.akse.org/

Temple Beth El
301 Possum Park Road
Newark, Delaware 19711
(302) 366-8330
www.tbede.org

Beth Emeth Congregation
300 West Lea Boulevard
Wilmington, Delaware 19802
(302) 764-2393
www.bethemeth.com

Beth Shalom Congregation
1801 Baynard Boulevard
Wilmington, Delaware 19802
(302) 654-4462
www.bethshalomwilmington.org

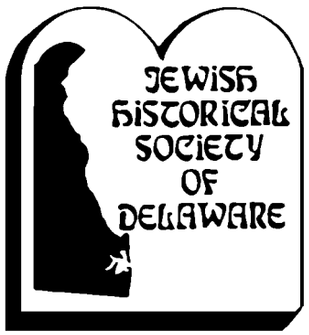
Beth Sholom of Dover
Queen & Clara Streets
Dover, Delaware 19901
(302) 734-5578
www.cbsdover.com

Machzikey Hadas Congregation
c/o B'nai B'rith Building
8000 Society Drive
Claymont, Delaware 19703
(302) 762-2637

Jewish Historical Society of Delaware
505 Market Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801
Phone (302) 655-6232
Open by appointment.

A RESOURCE GUIDE TO DELAWARE JEWISH GENEALOGY

Compiled by Julian H. Preisler



Jewish Historical Society of Delaware
505 Market Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801
Phone (302) 655-6232

Updated by Gail Pietrzyk May 2003

RESEARCH RESOURCES

The following institutions in Delaware have resources of help to genealogists:

Jewish Historical Society of Delaware
505 Market Street Mall
Wilmington, DE 19801
(302) 655-6232
jhsdel@yahoo.com

✡ Contains synagogue records, a biographical file, photograph collection, family collections, and genealogical reference books.

Delaware Public Archives
121 Duke of York Street
Dover, DE 19901
(302) 744-5000
archives@state.de.us

The Delaware Public Archives operates a research room which is open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday with evening hours on Wednesday and Thursday until 8:00 p.m.

✡ Contains state, county, and municipal records, genealogical records and a reference library.

Office of Vital Statistics
P.O. Box 637
Dover, DE 19903

✡ The public can obtain individual copies of birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage licenses via a written request to the Office of Vital Statistics, Dover, Delaware or in person at three locations:

Jesse Cooper Building	Georgetown State Service Center	Limestone Building
Federal & Water Sts.	546 S. Bedford St.	2055 Limestone Rd.
Dover, DE 19901	Georgetown, DE 19947	Wilmington, DE 19808

Historical Society of Delaware
505 Market Street Mall
Wilmington, Delaware 19801
(302) 655-7161
hsd@hsd.org

✡ Contains family history files, biographies & genealogies, census & immigration lists, city state directories, genealogical reference sources guides, and a Genealogical Surname File

The Church of Jesus of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon Church)
Family History Centers

Wilmington	*Dover*	*Newark*
143 Dickinson Lane	Rt 10 between 13 & Rt 113A	500 W Chestnut Hill Rd.
Wilmington, DE	Dover, DE	Newark, DE
302-654-1911	302-697-2700	302-456-9301

Note: Family History Centers do not respond to mail inquiries. Out-of-state researchers should contact a FHC in their area.

✡ These branch facilities of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City provide access to the microfilm and microfiche resources of the Family History Library to help patrons identify their ancestors. The Centers are excellent sources for Jewish genealogical materials. Many contain important pre-holocaust data from Eastern and Central Europe. The Mormons are preeminent genealogists and are a "must check" source for Jewish genealogists.

Schoenberg Memorial Chapel
519 Philadelphia Pike
Wilmington, Delaware 19809
(302) 762-0334

✡ Cemetery records for a number of Jewish cemeteries in Wilmington.

University of Delaware
Morris Library
Newark, Delaware 19716
(302) 831-2965

✡ Library contains a number of excellent books on Jewish genealogy, general genealogy, Jewish studies, and Holocaust resources.

Wilmington Public Library
10th & Market Streets
Wilmington, DE 19801
(302)-571-7400

✡ Indexed Delaware published materials.

> *"Remember the days of old.*
> *Consider the years of ages past."*
> Deuteronomy 32:7

DELAWARE JEWISH CEMETERIES

Jewish Community Cemetery
Foulk Road near Concord Pike
Wilmington, Delaware

Beth Emeth Memorial Park, Inc.
Faulkland & Dupont Roads
Wilmington, Delaware

Machzikey Hadas Cemetery
Wildel Avenue near DuPont Highway
Wilmington, Delaware

Sharon Hills Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Section
Sharon hills Road (west of Dover)
Dover, Delaware